

Sandy Police K-9 Unit



K-9 Joker and Jake Knight during narcotics detection certification.

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K-9 Joker and K-9 Jag -- Drug Dog Certification

K-9 Joker and K-9 Jag have passed the Utah POST narcotics detection certification. This certification consists of fourteen drug sniffs in businesses, residences, clothing, luggage, and vehicles.

Jake and Amanda also passed the handler written test and practical exam.

Both of these dog teams are now available for deployment.

Please be patient with the new dog teams as they continue to learn together.

Congrats to both teams!!



K-9 Jag

Meet K-9 Joker -- Newest K-9 Member



K-9 Joker is a Belgian Malinois that looks more like a hyena. Joker just turned a year old. Joker is a passive indicating narcotics detection dog.

Joker recently started his patrol dog training. This training will consist of building searches, evidence searches, tracking, area searches, handler defense, etc.

When you see Joker, take a minute to welcome him to the department.





K-9 Hook at the UPOA K-9 Trial in Herriman.

Success Stories - Clayton Swensen and K-9 Hook

07/02/11 – Drug Offense

K-9 Hook was deployed on the exterior of a vehicle. Hook alerted and located crack cocaine and paraphernalia.

07/21/11 – Drug Offense

K-9 Hook was deployed in a vehicle on a drug sniff. Hook indicated on a purse that contained heroin and paraphernalia. Thanks Ish for the call!!!

08/02/11 - Drug Offense

K-9 Hook was used to assist the Narcotics Unit on a Search Warrant.

08/08/11 - Drug Offense

K-9 Hook indicated on the exterior of a vehicle. Marijuana and paraphernalia was located. Thanks CRT for this call and many others!!

08/12/11 - Burglary

Hook was deployed on a burglary at the Belmont Station. After K-9 callouts on the main level, one suspect decided to surrender. Hook was deployed to clear the other levels. Two additional suspects were located on the third floor.

08/23/11 – Drug Sniff

Hook was deployed on the exterior of a moving van as requested by the narcotics unit. Hook alerted and indicated. The moving van was searched and marijuana plants were located.



K-9 Nitro at 4th of July Demo

Success Stories from Erika Smith and K-9 Nitro

07/09/11 – Residential Burglary / Stolen Vehicle – Responded to assist South Jordan Police Department on a residential burglary. While in the area, Erika located one of the suspects in a stolen vehicle. The suspect was non compliant and wouldn't follow officers orders to exit the vehicle. K-9 Nitro was deployed through an open window and helped the suspect out.

07/14-07/19/11 – Explosive Detection Sweeps - K-9 Nitro was used on VIP sweeps at several different venues for The Meeting of the National Governor's Association. Nitro indicated on one vehicle that was used the night prior to transport fertilizer.

07/24/11 – Explosive Sniff - K-9 Nitro was deployed in the area where a pipe bomb had been detonated. Nitro indicated in several different areas where pieces of the pipe were located.

08/07/11 – Riot - K-9 Nitro was used as a show of force on a large Polynesian fight in West Valley.

08/22/11 - Explosive Sweeps - K-9 Nitro was deployed on explosive sweeps at a military funeral.

Utah Peace Officer Association K-9 Trials – K-9 Nitro took first place in the explosive division of the K-9 Trials.



UPOA Competition →

Training Tip - K-9 Announcements

Verbal K-9 announcements that are given prior to a building search or an area search can cause an unnecessary officer safety risk to the K-9 handler. Occasionally, K-9 handlers will ask for patrol officers give the announcements from their PA systems in their patrol cars. Not only is this better for officer safety, but it is amplified throughout the search area for the suspect to be able to hear. According to current case law, K-9 announcements must include the following:

- 1- Identify who we are
- 2- Instructions of what the suspect is to do
- 3- Consequences if the suspect doesn't comply

Example:

"This is the Sandy Police Department. Anyone in the building needs to surrender now to the closest police vehicle. Otherwise, a police dog will be deployed and you may be bit or injured."

If you are asked to give announcements, please be prepared to give the three items necessary.

On large buildings or search areas, we may ask that all containment cars give announcements over their PA system.

Thank you for your help!!

The success of the K-9 Unit relies on officers that call the dog teams to deploy. We appreciate everyone's willingness to allow us to utilize the dogs. Thank you!!



K-9 Joker at the 4th of July Demo

K-9 Nitro at a School Demo

